State Government by the Ministry of Finance on 31.3.2000. This was in addition to the allocation of Rs. 207.00 crore to the State under Calamity Relief Fund for 1999-2000.

Assessment of Average Rate of Crop Yield

†2911. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment regarding average rate of crop yield in irrigated and non-irrigated land has been made by Government;

(b) if so, the rate of average crop yield of both the said areas separately; and

(c) the estimated average annual quantum of foodgrains in to be produced irrigated and non-irrigated areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (c) The Government have not made any official assessment of average rate of crop yield separately for irrigated and non-irrigated land at all-India level.

Suicide by Agricultural Labourers and Farmers

†2912. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK : PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the farmers and agricultural labourers who have committed suicide all over the country for last six months alongwith the name of the State where the cases of suicides are maximum;

(b) whether it is a fact that the incidents of suicides being committed by the farmers and agricultural labourers in Punjab are increasing as compared to those in the other States of the country;

(c) if so, the number of suicides committed by the farmers and agricultural labourers as on date and whether Government have identified the reasons therefor and taken any action to prevent the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had reported two cases of suicide by farmers during December 1999 due to failure of crops or indebtedness. The Government of Punjab has

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

reported that no suicides have taken place during the last six months. The State Government have, however, stated that the rate of suicides in the State in comparison with that in other States is on the rise. The State Government had got the matter investigated and found that the suicides were mainly due to family discord, alcohol & illicit drug use, indebtedness, loss of status and lack of resources. The State Government had taken appropriate action like providing short-term credit to the farmers to meet the socio-economic consumption needs. No report on suicides committed by farmers during last six months has been received from other States.

DRIP Irrigation Scheme in Gujarat

†2913. SHRI GOPAL SINH G. SOLANKI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated by Central Government during last three years for drip irrigation scheme in Gujarat, district-wise;

(b) whether State Government have sought any increase in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) The details of funds allotted for drip irrigation to the Government of Gujarat under (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Use of Plastics in Agriculture and (ii) Sustainable development of Sugarcane based Cropping system during the last three years is as follows :

(Rupees in lakh)

Year	Funds allocated	
	Plastic	Sugarcane
1997-98	24.80	62.50
1998-99	216.00	70.00
1999-2000	210.60	49.00

Central assistance is, however, allocated to the State Government.

(b) and (c) During the year 1997-98, the Government of Gujarat requested for an amount of Rs. 292.00 lakhs and during 1999-2000 they requested for Rs. 400.00 lakhs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Use

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.